

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification

Please substitute the following amended paragraph(s) and/or section(s) (deleted matter is shown by strikethrough and added matter is shown by underlining):

Page 1, after the title add the following paragraph:

This application claims priority to French Application No. 03 03122 filed March 13, 2003.

Page 1, before line 1, add the heading:

Technical Field

Page 1, line 3, add the heading:

Background Art

Page 1, line 22, add the heading:

Summary of the Invention

Page 3, line 17, add the heading:

Brief Description of the Drawings

Page 3, lines 18-19:

Figure 1 ~~schematizes~~ is a schematic of an example of a videophone telecommunications system to which the method of the invention applies;

Page 3, line 23, add the heading:

Detailed Description

Page 3, lines 28-37:

In the example shown in ~~[[f]]~~Figure 1, terminal 2 is connected via a local network 10 and a local server 11 to a public telecommunications network 1, while terminal 3 is connected directly to network 1.

During a videophone telecommunication, terminals 2, 3 via networks 1,10 and server 1 exchange video streams containing the images taken by cameras 7 and sounds captured by microphones 8. The exchanged video streams conform, for example, to protocol H.263+ and to QCIF image format (Quarter Common Intermediate), a frequently used video image format in videophone and videoconferencing communications. ~~Evidently~~ ~~[[t]]~~The invention may also apply to other image formats, such as SQCIF, CIF, 4CIF, 16 CIF.

Page 4, lines 1-10:

To generate said video stream, each terminal 2, 3 comprises a video processing chain such as the one shown in ~~[[f]]~~Figure 2. This chain is piloted by a command processing chain 21. The video processing chain 20 comprises a video transmission part to transmit video images taken by the camera or derived from another source 19 to another terminal, and a video

receiving part to receive a video stream emitted by this other terminal and to display it on screen

5. The command processing chain comprises a command transmission part designed to transmit commands to the video processing chain of the other terminal, and a command receiving part designed to receive commands emitted by the other terminal and to pilot the transmission part of the video processing chain in relation to commands received.

Page 5, lines 1-24:

As shown in Figure 3, the two processing chains (video and commands) 20, 21 are in the form of an applicative software layer. The command processing layer 21 uses a software layer 41 implementing protocol H.323, for example, or SIP (Session Initiation Protocol) to transmit and receive commands from a remote terminal. If protocol H.323 is used, the commands are transmitted in the form of "Facility" messages enabling the transmission of owner data. If the SSIP protocol is used, the commands may be transmitted using the "INFO" message. These two types of messages have the advantage of being ignored by the addressee terminal if it is not compliant therewith, so that it remains possible to maintain the interoperability of the terminals.

The video processing layer 20 uses a software layer 40 implementing protocol RTP (Real Time Protocol) or analog, to transmit and receive video streams in the form of packets. The two layers 40 and 41 are designed to be interfaced with a layer 42 implementing the protocol TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) grouping together the protocols used for the Internet network. Layer 42 can be used to physically access the network using transport layer 43.

During a videophone telecommunication, for example between terminals 2 and 3, terminal 2 receives a video stream H263+ in QCIF format which is processed by the receiving part of the video processing chain 20. Through the invention the user can act upon the video stream received by means of keyboard 4 and/or mouse 6 by applying commands to the transmission part of the command processing chain 21. These commands are received and processed by the receiving part of the command processing chain 21 of the other terminal 3 and are used to pilot the transmission part of the video processing chain of terminal 3.

Page 6, lines 10-20:

If the camera is not motorized, or if the command cannot be fully carried out by the camera (for example if the requested magnification exceeds the zoom capacity of the camera), the control module 27 applied to capture module 22 a format change command for incoming images so as to obtain greater resolution, for example requesting format CIF(352x288 pixels) instead of previously selected QCIF (176 x 144 pixels). Controls module 27 then activates optional reframing module 23 between the capture module 22 and the coding module so as only to select one part of the image captured and more precisely that part of the image contained in the region indicated in the received command. If the coding module 24 is compliant, the control module 27 may also modify its outgoing format so that it corresponds to that of the specified region, i.e. in the example of the above command, 96 x 64 pixels.

Page 7, lines 19-24:

Evidently, [[c]]Commands other than those described above may be provided without departing from the scope of the invention. For example, the remote terminal may be a server which produces a video image grouping together several video streams for videoconferencing. In this case, commands may be provided to act specifically on one of the video streams and on the presentation of the video streams in the image.

In the Abstract

Please substitute the following amended Abstract for the Abstract as currently pending (deleted matter is shown by strikethrough and added matter is shown by underlining):

~~CONTROL METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR REMOTE VIDEO CHAIN~~

A [[P]]process for commanding a remote video processing chain (20) producing a video stream transmitted to a terminal ~~with a view to acting on the transmitted video stream, this process comprising steps in which~~ is disclosed. [[t]]The terminal transmits a command to the remote video processing chain to modify the transmitted video stream, and the video processing chain executes the command on the video stream before transmitting it to the terminal. [[t]]The video stream processing commands ~~able to~~ that can be performed by the video processing chain (20) ~~comprising~~ include commands that contain~~[[ing]]~~ the definition of an image region of the image contained in the transmitted video stream~~[[,]]~~ and associated with the definition of processing to be applied to the image region. A system for controlling a remote video chain producing a video stream that is transmitted to a terminal via a telecommunications network is also disclosed.

~~Figure 2~~